(c) whether it is a fact that Western Coalfields Limited have recently given up old practice of accepting bank guarantee as a financial cover against sponsored or sanctioned quota of consumers; and they now insist on letter of credit by 100 per cent marginal value; and

(d) if so, what is the reason for this change?

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF COAL (SHRI P. A. SANGMA): (a) to (d) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) Materialisation of rail programme of coal supply to consumers is dependent on supply and loading of wagons. Daily average indent, allotment, wagon supply and loading materialisation in respect of Western Coalfields Ltd. (W. C. L.), in terms of four wheeler wagons for the last three years is given below:—

Year	Ident	Allotment	Supply	Loading/ Materialisation
1988-89	1428	1420	1276	1235
1989-90	1633	1531	1383	1338
1990-91	1894	1888	1650	1476

(b) No, Sir. In fact WCL has been directed recently by the Ministry of Coal that it should satisfy at least 50 per cent of the requirements of non-core sector consumers by rail or by road.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. WCL have informed that they have not stopped the practice of accepting bank guarantees as financial coverage for supply of coal against the sanctioned quota to the consumers.

Privatisation of tourism Industry

*217. SHRIMATI MIRA DAS:
SHRI CHIMANBHAI MEHTA:

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are planning for a comprehensive privatisation of tourism industry in the country;

(b) if so, what are the salient featues of the scheme;

(c) whether the public sector hotels are also proposed to be given to private management; and

(d) if so, what guidelines have been laid down for the purpose?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION AND TOURISM (SHRI MADHAV RAO SCINDIA): (a) and (b) Tourism industry in the country is already substantially in private sector, therefore the question of preparing a comprehensive scheme for its privatisation does not arise.

(c) and (d) The Government have yet to take a final decision in this regard.

Loan to Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board

*218. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the Minister of POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Andhra Pradesh Government has requested the Central

Government for a loan of Rs. 25 crore to the Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board to restore cyclone damaged power supply net work; and

(b) if so, the action taken by the Central Government in the matter.

THE MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER AND NON-CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES (SHRI KALP NATH RAI): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

Statement

(a) and (b) The Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board had requested the Rural Electrification Corporation in May, 1990 to provide to them a loan of Rs. 25 crores on soft terms for restoration of power supply network in the cyclone affected areas of Andhra Pradesh.

A Central Team visited Andhra Pradesh to assess the effects of the cyclone which hit Andhra Pradesh in May 1990 and the relief measures to be undertaken. The Central Government released a sum of Rs. 64.50 crores to enable the State Government to take urgent relief measures. Andhra Pradesh State Electricity Board received Rs. 15 crores for restoration/rehabilitation of rural distribution system damaged due to cyclone.

Setting up of a Southern gas grid

*219. SHRI M. A. BABY: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present position of the proposal to set up a Southern gas grid; and

(b) what steps are being taken to clear the same and expedite the construction work?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) and (b) The matter is under examination by an Inter-Ministerial Group.

World Bank loan for gas flaring reduction project at Bombay high

*220. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA:

DR. JINENDRA KUMAR JAIN:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the World Bank has laid down certain conditons for providing loan to the ONGC for its gas flaring reduction project at Bombay offshore;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and Government's reaction thereto;

(c) what is the total estimated cost of the project and by what percentage the cost is to be met with the World Bank loan; and

(d) in which manner the balance amount is proposed to be raised by the Government for the implementation of the project?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI B. SHANKARANAND): (a) to (d) The conditons laid down by the World Bank for the project which is estimated to cost US dollar 2878.40 million include gas pricing, monitoring of oil and gas field development projects, 4th round of bidding and environment clearance of the project. The loan is expected to cover about 15.7 per cent of the project cost.

Raids under the Gas Control Order, 1988

937. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether raids under the Gas Control Order, 1988 have been carried out by the oil companies supplying LPG;

(b) if so, the number of cases registered during the last one year;